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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/637,846	08/10/2000	Sujith Arramreddy	RCC-001	7094

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CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP
350 WEST COLORADO BOULEVARD
SUITE 500
PASADENA, CA 91105

EXAMINER

HUYNH, KIM T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2189

DATE MAILED: 11/20/2003

17

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/637,846

Applicant(s)

ARRAMREDDY ET AL.

Examiner

Kim T. Huynh

Art Unit

2189

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 August 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 10 August 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 16.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1, 3-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kelly et al. (US Patent 5592631)

As per claim 1, a method of assigning ownership of a peripheral component interconnect (PCI) bus, the method including:

- Identifying a target requested by a master; (col.3, lines 50-col.4, line 41)
- Determining if data associated with the target is available; and (col.3, lines 50-col.4, line 41)
- Assigning a first priority level for ownership of the PCI bus to the master if the data is not available (inherently, by default master got the ownership since others have no data available) and assigning a second priority level for ownership of the PCI bus to the master if the data is available. (col.3, lines 50-col.4, line 41), (col.5, lines 21-30), (col.7, lines 49-55)

As per claim 3, Kelly discloses wherein assigning a first priority level for ownership of the PCI bus to the master if the data is not available comprises assigning a LOW priority level to the master if the data is not available. (since by

default master got the ownership if no data available, it is inherently assigning as a LOW priority level), (col.7, lines 49-55)

As per claim 4, Kelly discloses wherein assigning a second priority level for ownership of the PCI bus to the master if the data is available comprises assigning a HIGH priority level to the master if the data is available. (col.3, lines 50-col.4, line 41, assigning ownership of bus implies high priority), (col.7, lines 49-55)

As per claim 5, Kelly discloses wherein the target uses delayed transactions to complete a read access. (col.8, lines 57-65)

As per claim 6, Kelly discloses wherein the target integrates a buffer management scheme. (col.6, line 61-col.7, line 7)

As per claim 7, Kelly discloses wherein the buffer management scheme includes an input/output cache. (col.6, line 61-col.7, line 7)

As per claim 8, Kelly discloses wherein identifying a target includes sending a request signal from the master to an arbiter. (col.8, lines 48-65)

As per claim 9, Kelly discloses wherein assigning a priority includes sending a modified request signal to the arbiter. (col.8, lines 48-65)

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kelly et al. (US Patent 5592631)

Kelly discloses all the limitations as above except the method further comprising assigning the master a MEDIUM priority level after the master requests a target.

Examiner takes official notice that assigning a MEDIUM priority level is well known in the art. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the assigning the master a MEDIUM priority level into Kelly's system for rearranging the priority of the masters, since it has been held that rearranging parts of an invention involves only routine skill in the art.

Response to Amendments

4. Applicant's amendment filed on 8/28/03 have been fully considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

a. In response to applicant's amendment that assigning a first priority level for ownership of the PCI bus to the master if the data is not available and assigning a second priority level for ownership of the PCI bus to the master if the data is available. As Kelly discloses in (col.3, lines 50-col.4, line 41), issuing a data arbitration signal to one of the slave devices based on pairs of address arbitration and address termination vectors at the head of the queue structure and based on a read-ready vector composed of read-ready signals

for the slave devices. (wherein, by default master got the ownership since others have no data available)

Conclusion

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

6. *Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kim Huynh whose telephone number is (703)305-5384 or via e-mail addressed to [kim.huynh3@uspto.gov]. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30AM- 6:30PM.*

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Rinehart can be reached on (703) 305-4815 or via e-mail addressed to [mark.rinehart@uspto.gov]. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703)872-9306 for regular communications and After Final communications.

Application/Control Number: 09/637,846
Art Unit: 2189

Page 6

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)306-5631.

Kim Huynh

Nov. 17, 2003



MARK H. RINEHART
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100